

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MAEDA, Mituo Conf.:  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: April 27, 2001 Examiner:  
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THERMOPLASTIC RESIN  
COMPOSITION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

April 27, 2001

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

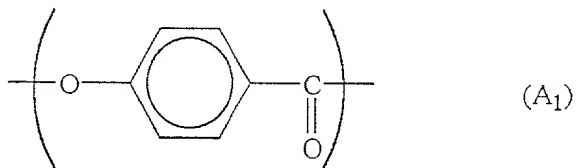
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hollow spheres have a mean particle diameter of 5-500  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a volume hollowness of 60 - 80%.

5. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the thermoplastic resin is a liquid crystal polyester resin.

7. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 5, wherein the liquid crystal polyester resin has 30% by mole or more of the following structural unit (A<sub>1</sub>)



REMARKS

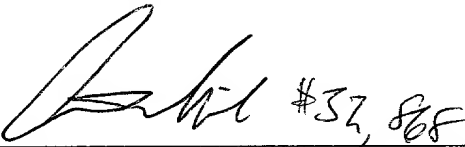
The amendment to the claims is merely to delete improper multiple dependencies and to place the application into better form for examination. Entry of the present amendment and favorable action on the above-identified application are earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up copy of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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Raymond C. Stewart, #21,066

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Attachment: Version with Markings Showing Changes Made

(Rev. 01/22/01)

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to [any one of claims 1 to 3]claim 1 or 2, wherein the hollow spheres have a mean particle diameter of 5-500  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a volume hollowness of 60 - 80%.

5. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to [any one of claims 1 to 4]claim 1 or 2, wherein the thermoplastic resin is a liquid crystal polyester resin.

7. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 5 [or 6], wherein the liquid crystal polyester resin has 30% by mole or more of the following structural unit ( $A_1$ )

